Text Chat Transcript for Dec 18, 2014 Webinar: Making It Count: California Library Statistics Online

Jamie McGrath:While digital data is great for researching specific questions, the printed version of CSL statistics is much easier to view for comparative information. Will there be printed versions available in the traditional format?

Eileen O'Shea:We are archiving today's webinar, so you can sahre it with any staff who missed the live event.

Eileen O'Shea:Darla's email: Darla.Gunning@library.ca.gov

Darla Gunning (CSL):Jamie, at this time there is not a plan for continuing the print version. This was announced at the director's forum last year. Partially because the only breakdown was by population which is not the most relevant comparison. All of these ready reports can easily be downloaded though!

Eileen O'Shea:handouts for today's webinar can be downloaded here (look at bottom of page): https://infopeople.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=451

Jamie McGrath:Print was also available to any patron using reference section. With login limited to library personnel, there could represent a restriction of research use by librarians not affiliated with a library that has a login, and also the public.

Jamie McGrath:Maybe I don´t have the full picture.

Grace:what do you use to count visitors? do you have a door count or some one keeps track of people coming in?

Milly Lugo-Rios:When odd entries are posted in the statistics, is there someone at CSL who picks up on them and confirm with the library that the number is accurate?

Darla Gunning (CSL):ready reports page is open to all

Eileen O'Shea:ready reports here: https://ca.countingopinions.com/index.php?page_id=3

Jamie McGrath:Thanks!
Eileen O'Shea:lots of great data!
Lindsay Thompson:californialibrarystatistics.com
Eileen O'Shea:thanks @lindsay. that's an easier url to remember!
Darla Gunning (CSL):Milly, we try to vet as much of the data as possible as does the US Census, but it is not always possible to catch all anomalies

Milly Lugo-Rios:I understand, thanks!

Darla Gunning (CSL):Grace, libraries at the branch level even may do this very differently. Random sampling is suggested if there is no door count mechanism (such as through security gates.)

Darla Gunning (CSL):Milly, having these new reports also help highlight those outliers!!!!

Milly Lugo-Rios:You are right, Darla! If the data is vital for our report, we can always contact the library directly, as that info appears on the reports, as well.

Grace:thank you Darla.

Norma Angel:Hello. Is our login the same as for the annual survey?

Darla Gunning (CSL):Norma, no it is completely separate (a different vendor.)

Norma Angel:Ok. Who should I contact for this info?
Darla Gunning (CSL):me
Darla Gunning (CSL):just email me
Norma Angel:Will do. Thanks
Alameda Public Library:Is there a way to resolve errors in the data from this/previous years?

Eileen O'Shea:we can see your screen!

Darla Gunning (CSL):We have corrected up until it it finalized with IMLS/US Census, and then it is locked. At that point the federal reports are made available and is what is used nationally. We have felt it was important not to change because the public would get inconsistent data for the same period of time. Not sure how to resolve that but may be a topic the task force could discus.

Eileen O'Shea:the link to share: https://ca.countingopinions.com/index.php?page_id=3 OR http://californialibrarystatistics.com/

Grace:how are the tables calculated? do you have the spreadsheet or the original document where you input the info before it is transfered to this final report?

Scott Fretwell:Yes, please discuss, as it is important to have accurate data. With this new format, hopefully more mistakes will be caught before its finalized

Mary Hudson:Will it be possible to get a copy of these comments, too?

Stanley Strauss:The chat will be archived along with the entire presentation.

Darla Gunning (CSL):Grace, Counting Opinions is provided with the final raw data after final vetting by US Census, they then are providing the various tables/calculations.

Lindsay Thompson:Grace - the formulas are available through the reporting tool. Happy to help you locate them or answer any other questions specific to the tool. You can email me at llt@countingopinions.com

Grace:thank you Darla and Lindsay.

Scott Fretwell:Where do you find the individual branch data that was just alluded to?

Alameda Public Library:Does editing the pamphlets require Adobe Acrobat?

Lindsay Thompson:There is summary branch and bookmobile data available through the public url at http://californialibrarystatistics.com and the pamphlets group suggested they might add additional pamphlets at the branch level (not currently available).

Lindsay Thompson:The pamphlet will open in Word

Anne Marie Gold:Pamphlets are edited in Word

Alameda Public Library:Also would it be possible to add a function to the averages tool that would allow us to select libraries we want to average? For example, if we want to take out possible outlier data?

Scott Fretwell:Thanks Lindsay, found it!
Grace:that is okay...
Lindsay Thompson:Additional functionality is available which enables you to customize the filters, add specific questions, report types and options.

Lindsay Thompson:Today is an overview of the "Ready Reports". If you login and select "Reports" in the upper right-hand quadrant of the screen. Happy to help if you have any questions about the custom report options.

Lindsay Thompson:My contact information is located on
http://ca.countingopinions.com

Eileen O'Shea:Infographic selection chart:
https://infopeople.org/sites/default/files/webinar/2014/12-18-2014/Infographics.pdf

Lindsay Thompson:. . . or http://calfinornialibrarystatistics.com which is the url that provides access to everything you're seeing today.

Lindsay Thompson:Sorry typo californialibrarystatistics.com

Scott Fretwell:Is the previous years FY summary data going to be added for public view eventually?

Darla Gunning (CSL):That is possible Scott, but we also don't want this page to get too busy. OWould one prior year give you what you want?

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Darla Gunning (CSL):Login in will only go to directors or upon their written approval.

Darla Gunning (CSL):no

Scott Fretwell:I personally don't need it, can get it from the prior State Report books my system has. Just curious, thanks Darla.

Cindy Med:Good job, all!
Kelly Pepo:Thank you!
Darla Gunning (CSL):Thanks eeveryone, great comments & questions!

Mary Hudson:Thank you!
Milly Lugo-Rios:Great information. thanks!
Scott Fretwell:Thank you everyone!
Grace:Thank you and good luck on your projects and Happy Holidays!